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THE CENSUS OF IOWA FOR THE YEAR 1905.

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*The Census of Iowa for the Year 1905.* Executive document compiled by the Executive Council of the State of Iowa. A. H. Davison, Secretary of the Council; W. B. Martin, Secretary of State. 131 pp. of text, charts, and comparative tables and 908 pp. of general tables. Des Moines, Ia., 1905.

As early as the second day of January, 1906, there appeared in a single calf-bound volume of over one thousand pages the complete census returns of the State of Iowa for the year 1905. Iowa has an area of 56,025 square miles and a population of 2,210,050. The Executive Council, by whom the work was directed, should be highly commended for having completed this extensive census within a single year, particularly in view of the fact that published statistical reports are far too often obsolete when they leave the press.

In accordance with the new census law (Chapter VIII., Acts of the Thirtieth General Assembly of Iowa), the Executive Council prepared three schedules which were used in collecting returns for population, agriculture, and churches. The law provided that these schedules should be furnished to the county auditors, and by them to the township assessors before the first Monday in January, 1905, and that the returns should be forwarded to the Secretary of State not later than July 1 of the same year. It thus appears that the field work was done by the township assessors, under the immediate direction of the county auditors, who in turn were responsible to the Executive Council. It is not in the province of this review to discuss the merits of this arrangement, but the results appear to have been decidedly satisfactory.

The schedule for church returns was printed on return postal cards, which were mailed directly to the organizations from which returns were required.

The simplicity yet comprehensiveness of the three schedules used warrants their reproduction in this review.

<p>(1)</p> <p>Card No. .... POPULATION SCHEDULE. 1905</p> <p>County .....</p> <p>Township .....</p> <p>City .....</p> <p>Name .....</p> <p>P. O. Address .....</p> <p>Sex, Male—Female .....</p> <p>Color, White—Black—Yellow—Red .....</p> <p>Place of birth, Self .....</p> <p>Place of birth, Mother .....</p> <p>Place of birth, Father .....</p> <p>Do you own your home or farm? { Yes. No. }</p> <p>Entire value of home or farm? \$ .....</p> <p>How much encumbrance { on your home or farm? { \$ .....</p> <p>If you are foreign born, { Yes. are you naturalized? { No. }</p> <p>Years in U.S. .... Years in Iowa .....</p> <p>Conjugal { Single—Married—Widowed— condition { Divorced—Separated.</p> <p>Months in school in 1904. Public .....</p> <p>High. .... Private. .... College. ....</p> <p>Occupation. ....</p> <p>Months unemployed in 1904. ....</p> <p>Service in Civil War—Mexican War—Span- ish War.</p> <p>Company. .... Regiment. .... State. ....</p> <p>Class of service { Cavalry—Infantry—Ar- tillery—Navy.</p> <p>Date of enlistment. ....</p> <p>Date of discharge. ....</p> <p>Remarks. ....</p> <p>Signed. ....</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Assessor.</i></p>	<p>(2)</p> <p>Card No. .... AGRICULTURAL ROAD SCHEDULE.</p> <p>County .....</p> <p>Town or Township .....</p> <p>Name .....</p> <p>P. O. Address .....</p> <p>No. acres in farm .....</p> <p>In what section located. ....</p> <p>Average distance to market. .... miles.</p> <p>Number bu. hauled to market per year: .....</p> <p>..... Oats. .... Wheat. .... Barley. ....</p> <p>..... other grains. .... grass and other seeds</p> <p>..... Potatoes and other vegetables</p> <p>..... Fruits of all kinds</p> <p>No. tons hay and other forage .....</p> <p>No. loads fuel to market. .... No. pounds</p> <p>live stock. .... No. loads other produce. ....</p> <p>No. pounds milk or cream delivered to creamery</p> <p>per day. .... For. .... days each year.</p> <p>Distance to creamery. .... miles.</p> <p>No. loads fuel, building material, etc., hauled</p> <p>from market per year. ....</p> <p>Average size of full loads hauled. .... pounds.</p> <p>Average time required for round trip, when haul- ing full loads. .... hours.</p> <p>No. trips to market per week without consid- erable load. ....</p> <p>Average distance travelled per week on highways</p> <p>other than to market. .... miles.</p> <p>Deposits of road material on farm:</p> <p>Gravel { Yes. Limestone { Yes. No. No.</p> <p>Remarks .....</p> <p>Signed .....</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Assessor.</i></p>	<p>(3)</p> <p>CHURCH CENSUS SCHEDULE.</p> <p>1. Name of organization. .... Location. ....</p> <p>2. Nature of building in which services are held. ....</p> <p>3. Value of church property (not including par- sonage). ....</p> <p>4. Value of Parsonage, if any. ....</p> <p>5. Seating capacity of church. ....</p> <p>6. Number of members or communicants. ....</p> <p>7. Number of Sunday-school scholars. ....</p> <p>Signed .....</p> <p>Post-office Address .....</p>
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The first 131 pages of the report under review form an introduction prepared by Professor W. R. Patterson. This introduction opens with an historical sketch describing the acquisition of Iowa land from the Indians. An accompanying map presents in colors the outlines of the cessions from 1830 to 1851. By careful estimate it is shown in an extended table that the money value paid the various Indian tribes for the entire State of Iowa was less than three million dollars, or an average rate of less than eight cents per acre. Another table shows the disposition of Iowa land for public purposes; *i.e.*, to provide for an educational system and to aid in the construction of railways. Of the total donation of nearly eight million acres, almost one-half was given to the railroads.

The growth and spread of population in the State from 1838 to 1900 is the next topic considered. Maps showing the density of population by counties in 1840, 1850, and 1860, respectively, appear, and are of distinct interest. Several pages are devoted to a study of the "temporary decline in population" shown by this recent census as compared with that of 1900. It appears that there has been a decrease in population for the State as a whole, amounting to 21,800, or nearly one per cent., since 1900. No special reason for this "temporary decline" is assigned; but, after a careful study of the movement of population, Professor Patterson concludes that, while the so-called "urban population" has increased, the decrease in population in certain of the rural sections has more than counterbalanced the general increase in the more largely populated sections.

Other features of Professor Patterson's work consist of interpretative studies of the census returns and of the additional financial returns furnished by the heads of certain State departments and by various public institutions. The topics treated are manufactures, banking, fire insurance, life insurance, county tax receipts and disbursements, cities and towns, institutional expenditures, income from educational institutions, value and encumbrance of homes, railroad growth and development (1855-1905), and church membership and property. Inserted with these studies are charts showing the location of mineral areas of Iowa in 1904, the condition of banks (1873-1905), the growth of fire insurance (1871-1904) and of life insurance (1870-1904), the development of the railroad system (1855-70), and the railroad system as existing in 1880 and in 1904.

The bulk of the report consists of tabulated returns obtained on the schedules reproduced above, together with several tables relating to manufactures and considerable material classified as financial statistics. The compilation of these returns was under the immediate su-

pervision of Mr. A. H. Davison, the Secretary of the Council. In the preface to the report he is accredited by his associates in the Council with having performed his duties "with extraordinary economy and unusual accuracy."

In further commendation of the work it should be said that the appropriation "to enable the Executive Council to collect and compile the census of nineteen hundred and five, and to read the proof of the same," including, presumably, the additional features, but not the field work done by the township assessors, did not exceed fifteen thousand dollars,—an amount most economically expended in consideration of the numerous subjects covered by the returns.

ROSWELL F. PHELPS.

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*Report of the Massachusetts Commission on the Adult Blind, 1906.*  
Pub. Doc. Boston, Mass. 32 pp.

This report marks the completion of the second stage in an investigation begun in 1903, and sums up the work of the commission having the matter in charge during the past three years. A résumé of what has been done in other States in the way of ameliorating the condition of the blind by means of education and industrial training forms a part of this report. The commission made a careful study of the statistics concerning the blind, contained in the Massachusetts censuses of 1895 and 1905 and the United States census of 1900, and has presented some instructive compilations in this report. A wide discrepancy, not fully explained by the commission, exists in the figures given from these two sources; but, in spite of this, it is apparent that there is a preponderance of adults among the blind. This is rendered significant when we are told that ample provision is made for the education and industrial training of children and youth, but that little has been done to aid the adult blind in those lines. Here are a large number of people, healthy and strong and willing to work, but, owing to lack of training, unable to perform any useful service. As the commission expresses it in summing up the matter, "The greatest need of the group appears to be not so much homes or health or friends as occupation."

C. W. DOTEN.